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1623

PATENT
Customer Number 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 06652.0456

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Michel GARRAIT et al.)
Serial No.: 09/350,152)
Filed: July 9, 1999)
For: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION)
OF HYDROXYMETHYL BUTYRIC)
ACID)

Group Art Unit: 1623
Examiner: T. Oh

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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on December 23, 2002
Date


Lori-Ann Johnson

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Appeal - 2 pages
3. Petition for Extension of Time - 1 page
4. Amendment Under 37 U.S.C. 116 - 4 pages
5. PTO Post Card



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Attorney Docket No. 6652 0456-00

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 U.S.C. 1.116

In reply to the final Office Action dated August 23, 2002, the period for reply having been extended for one month by a request for extension and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, please amend the above-identified application, without prejudice, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

16. A process according to claim 15, wherein the molar quantity of sulphuric acid relative to the 2-hydroxy-4-methylthiobutyronitrile is between 0.7 and 0.85.

17. A process according to claim 15, wherein the medium of the hydrating step (a) contains less than 5% by weight of 2-hydroxy-4-methylthiobutyric acid.

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